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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
NSC-05 CU-02 DODE-00 /073 W
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P R 140515Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6086
AMEMBASSY BONN
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3511

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MILI, JA, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO VISIT OF JAPANESE PARLIAMENTARIANS

REF: (A) TOKYO 2737 (B) USNATO 1080 (C) STATE 46693

SUMMARY. FURTHER DETAILS PROVIDED IN REGARD TO PROPOSED NATO VISIT BY FORMER JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY DIRGEN MATSUNO AND DSP DEFENSE EXPERT NAGASUE. EMBASSY APPRECIATES OFFER TO ASSIST AT SHORT NOTICE. END SUMMARY.

1. FORMER JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY DIRGEN RAIZO MATSUNO RELAYED FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO EMBOFF CONCERNING JAPANESE DIET LOWER HOUSE MEMBERS' PLANNED VISIT TO NATO. VISITORS: MATSUNO, REPRESENTING RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP; EIICHI NAGASUE OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP); POSSIBLY REPRESENTATIVE OF CLEAN GOVERNMENT PARTY (CGP) YET TO BE NAMED; AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING MISS NOBUKO AOKI, PRIVATE SECRETARY TO MATSUNO. VISIT DATES: THREE DAYS, MARCH 28-30. VISIT REQUESTS: NATO HEADQUARTERS BRIEFING CONCENTRATING ON GENERAL NATO
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STRATEGY AND ROLE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONRY; MEETING, HOWEVER BRIEF, WITH NATO COMMANDER OR OTHER SUITABLE HIGH-LEVEL NATO OFFICIALS; AND VISIT TO LARGE WEST GERMAN BASE FOR CLOSE-UP LOOK AT TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. MATSUNO HAS INFORMED GOJ FOREIGN OFFICE OF HIS PLANS BUT HAS REQUESTED NO ASSISTANCE FROM THEM. THERE IS NO REASON NOT TO COORDINATE WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS, BUT EMBASSY

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NOT YET INFORMED ABOUT MATSUNO GROUP PLANS.

2. MATSUNO (59) GRADUATED IN LAW AND HAS HELD SEVERAL CABINET POSITIONS (LABOR, AGRICULTURE, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE DIRGEN) AS WELL AS DIRGEN OF JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY. MATSUNO RECENTLY FELL OUT WITH PRIMIN FUKUDA, WHEN LATTER VETOED HIS APPOINTMENT AS LDP SECGEN. WITH AMBITIONS TO BECOME PRIMIN, MATSUNO ADVOCATES SUBSTANTIALLY GREATER JAPANESE SELF DEFENSE EFFORTS, SUPPLEMENTARY ROLE FOR US FORCES IN JAPANESE DEFENSE EFFORT, AND ELIMINATION OF JAPANESE NUCLEAR "ALLERGY." HE HAS DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS A DOVE BY REPUTE BUT A HAWK AT HEART. MATSUNO SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH.

3. NAGASUE (57) IS DSP'S EXPERT ON SECURITY ISSUES AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIALIST. WELL KNOWN TO EMBOFFS, NAGASUE ADVOCATES STRENGTHENING JAPANESE MILITARY FORCES TO POINT WHERE JAPAN CAN DEFEND ITSELF FROM CONVENTIONAL ATTACK, WHILE CONTINUING TO RELY ON US FOR NUCLEAR DETERRENT. HIS SMALL MODERATE PARTY IF FIRM FRIEND OF US AND PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH SECURITY ISSUES. NAGASUE GIVES IMPRESSION OF UNDERSTANDING ENGLISH WELL, BUT HIS COMPREHENSION OF ENGLISH WHEN COMPLEX ISSUES ARE DISCUSSED IS LIMITED.

4. DURING VISIT, MATSUNO LIKELY TO BE SEARCHING FOR THOSE ELEMENTS OF NATO STRATEGY AND OPERATION WHICH WILL ACCORD WITH HIS PHILOSOPHY AND CAN BE PASSED ALONG TO JAPANESE AS EXAMPLES OF ADVANCED WESTERN MILITARY
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PLANNING.

5. WE RECOMMEND THAT MATSUNO GROUP BE GIVEN NATO VIP BRIEFING AND, IF POSSIBLE, BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO MEET GENERAL HAIG OR ONE OF HIS IMMEDIATE SUBORDINATES. WE WOULD HOPE GERMAN BASE VISIT CAN ALSO BE ARRANGED. IN SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS, WE RECOMMEND STRESS ON POWER AND DIVERSITY OF US MILITARY MIGHT, A POINT JAPANESE OCCASIONALLY LOSE SIGHT OF.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AS MUCH SCHEDULING INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE BEFORE GROUP LEAVES JAPAN MARCH 19, INCLUDING NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF VISIT.
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